[0298] It is preferable in the mobile terminal unit of the present invention that the pullout display be flexible, and the pullout display be in a state of bending when housed in the body of the mobile terminal unit.

[0299] With this configuration, the pullout display has flexibility. Thus, the pullout display is freely bendable. Utilizing this property, the pullout display is bent when housed in the body of the mobile terminal unit. This allows the pullout display to be housed in a smaller body of the mobile terminal unit, compared with a case in which the pullout display is straight when housed. This produces an advantageous effect that smaller mobile terminal units are provided.

[0300] It is preferable in the mobile terminal unit of the present invention that the display controlling means adjust a size of an image in a manner responsive to the pullout amount to display the image on the pullout display.

[0301] With this configuration, the display controlling means adjusts the size of the image displayed on the pullout display, in the manner responsive to the pullout amount. This produces an advantageous effect that the mobile terminal unit displays an image having a size responsive to the current size of the pullout display.

[0302] It is preferable in the mobile terminal unit of the present invention that the display controlling means display a content having a size responsive to the pullout amount that is detected.

[0303] With this configuration, the display controlling means selects the content having the size responsive to the current size of the pullout display, and displays the content on the pullout display. For example, an image having the same length-to-width ratio as that of the pullout display is read out from the memory to be displayed. This produces an advantageous effect that the mobile terminal unit displays the content having a most suitable size for the pullout display.

[0304] It is preferable in the mobile terminal unit of the present invention that the pullout display need light given from a back, the mobile terminal unit further comprising a backlight that emits the light to the pullout display and is allowed to be pulled out along with the pullout display.

[0305] With this configuration, the pullout display is a display that needs light given from the back, such as a liquid crystal display. To display information on the pullout display, the mobile terminal unit further includes the backlight to emit the light from the back of the pullout display. The backlight can be pulled out along with the pullout display. Therefore, when the user pulls out the pullout display, the backlight is also pulled out. Thus, the light is also given to the part of the pullout display, which part is being pulled out, by the backlight being pulled out.

[0306] Accordingly, the mobile terminal unit uniformly gives the light for displaying information to the pullout display being pulled out. This produces an advantageous effect that brightness of a display on a screen of the pullout display is stabilized uniformly without carrying out a special process. Specifically, the pullout display does not become extremely dark or bright partially.

[0307] It is preferable in the mobile terminal unit of the present invention that the pullout display need light given from a back, the mobile terminal unit further including: a backlight that emits the light to a part of the pullout display, which part is housed in the body of the mobile terminal unit; amount-of-light controlling means for controlling an amount of light to be emitted from the backlight; and amount-of-light detecting means for detecting an amount of ambient light around the mobile terminal unit, the amount-of-light controlling means controlling the amount of light to be emitted from the backlight in a manner responsive to the amount of ambient light that is detected by the amount-of-light detecting means.

[0308] With this configuration, the pullout display of the mobile terminal unit is a display that needs light given from the back, such as a liquid crystal display. To allow the pullout display to display information, the mobile terminal unit further includes the backlight to emit light from the back of the pullout display.

[0309] In the mobile terminal unit, the amount-of-light detecting means detects the amount of ambient light around the mobile terminal unit. On the basis of the amount detected, the amount-of-light controlling means controls the amount of light to be emitted from the backlight.

[0310] Thus, the same amount of light comes incident on a part of the pullout display that is housed in the body of the mobile terminal unit and on a part of the pullout display that is pulled out from the body of the mobile terminal unit. This produces an advantageous effect that brightness of a display on a screen of the pullout display is stabilized uniformly without carrying out a special process. Specifically, the pullout display does not become extremely dark or bright partially.

[0311] It is preferable that the mobile terminal unit of the present invention further include, on a front surface of the pullout display, a touched-section detecting member to detect a section touched by a user, the touched-section detecting member being rigidly mounted on the body of the mobile terminal unit.

[0312] With this configuration, the mobile terminal unit further includes, on the front surface of the pullout display, the touched-section detecting member (e.g. touch panel) to detect the section touched by the user. The touched-section detecting member is rigidly mounted on the body of the mobile terminal unit so that the touched-section detecting member is not pulled out along with the pullout display. That is to say, when the user pulls out the pullout display, the touched-section detecting member remains on the front surface of a part of the pullout display that is housed in the body of the mobile terminal unit.

[0313] For example if the pullout display is soft and has a shape that is easily bent when pulled out, the touched-section detecting member is not provided in this part. This produces an advantageous effect that detection of the touched section is prevented from being unstable.

[0314] It is preferable that the mobile terminal unit of the present invention further include, on a front surface of the pullout display, a touched-section detecting member to detect a section touched by a user, the touched-section detecting member being allowed to be pulled out along with the pullout display.

[0315] With this configuration, the mobile terminal unit further includes, on the front surface of the pullout display, the touched-section detecting member (e.g. touch panel) to detect the section touched by the user. The touched-section detecting member is not rigidly mounted on the body of the terminal unit so that the touched-section detecting member can be pulled out along with the pullout display. That is to say, when the user pulls out the pullout display, the touched-section detecting member is also pulled out to detect touching on the front surface of the part of the pullout display that is being pulled out.